

## ADVERTISEMENT.

By Joseph Watts, *at the Half-Moon in  
St. Paul's Church-yard,*

**A**LL Gentlemen and Others, may have  
most sorts of Acts of Parliament, Pro-  
clamations, Declarations, Orders of Kin and  
Council, Speeches of King, Lord Chancellor,  
and Speaker in Parliament, &c. Pamphlets of  
all sorts, *viz.* Pamphlets relating to the State,  
Sermons, Controversies about Church-Govern-  
ment, Tracts of Divinity, and other Miscella-  
neous Tracts, &c. Also Tryals, Narratives  
and Gazetts, &c.

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## IMPRIMATUR,

Rob. Midgley, October  
the 9th, 1685.

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OF THE  
**UNEQUALITY**  
OF  
NATURAL TIME,  
WITH ITS  
*REASON* and *CAUSES*.  
TOGETHER WITH  
**A TABLE**  
OF THE  
TRUE  $\text{Æ}$ QUATION  
OF  
*NATURAL DAYES*.

Drawn up Chiefly for the Use of  
The GENTRY, in Order to their  
more true Adjusting, and right  
Managing of  
*Pendulum Clocks, and Watches.*

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By *John Smith*, C. M.

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LONDON,  
Printed for *Joseph Watts*, at the *Half-  
Moon* in *St. Paul's Church-yard*. 1686.

# A TABLE of Equations, FOR REDUCING The Unequality of NATURAL DAYS TO A MEAN and EQUAL TIME.

Designed chiefly in order to the more true Adjusting, and right Managing  
of *Pendulum* CLOCKS and WATCHES.

By JOHN SMITH, C. M.

Day.	Janua. Sec.	Febru. Sec.	March Sec.	April Sec.	May. Sec.	June. Sec.	July. Sec.	Aug. Sec.	Sept. Sec.	Octob. Sec.	Nov. Sec.	Dec. Sec.
1	24	0	17	17	3	1	7	9	20	14	9	29
2	23	2	17	16	3	1	7	9	20	14	10	30
3	22	2	18	16	1	12	7	9	21	13	10	30
4	21	4	18	15	0	12	6	11	21	13	10	30
5	20	4	18	15	0	12	6	12	21	13	11	30
6	19	4	18	14	1	13	6	13	21	13	12	30
7	18	5	18	14	2	13	6	13	22	12	12	30
8	17	5	18	14	2	13	5	14	22	11	13	30
9	16	6	18	14	3	13	4	14	22	10	15	30
10	16	8	18	13	3	13	4	15	21	9	17	30
11	16	8	18	13	3	13	3	15	21	8	17	30
12	16	9	18	12	4	13	2	15	20	7	18	30
13	16	9	19	12	4	13	2	16	20	7	18	30
14	15	10	19	11	5	13	1	16	20	6	19	31
15	15	10	20	11	5	13	0	17	20	6	20	31
16	14	11	20	10	6	12	0	17	20	5	21	31
17	13	12	20	10	6	12	1	17	20	4	22	31
18	12	13	20	10	6	11	2	18	20	3	23	30
19	11	13	20	10	6	11	3	18	19	3	23	30
20	11	13	19	10	7	11	4	19	19	2	24	30
21	10	14	19	9	8	11	4	19	19	0	24	30
22	9	14	19	9	8	11	4	19	19	0	24	30
23	8	15	19	7	9	10	4	19	19	0	25	30
24	6	15	19	7	10	10	5	19	18	1	25	29
25	5	15	19	6	10	10	5	20	17	2	25	28
26	4	15	19	5	11	10	5	20	17	2	25	28
27	3	16	19	5	11	10	5	20	16	3	26	28
28	3	17	19	5	11	9	6	20	16	4	26	27
29	2		19	4	11	9	7	20	15	6	27	27
30	1		18	4	11	8	8	20	15	7	27	25
31	0		17		11		9	20		8		24
	Clocks gain this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks gain this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks gain this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks lose this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks gain this Month Min. Sec.	Clocks gain this Month Min. Sec.
Sum	6 26	4 29	9 37	5 16	2 47	5 43	0 6	8 23	9 41	2 20	9 38	15 9

This Table contains those Seconds of Time that each natural Day is either longer or shorter than the mean or equal day, or such a one as contains in length the just time of 24 hours; from which Mean Day the Natural ones differing almost continually in length, this Table shall still give you the difference between them, and (by inspection only) inform you what quantity of time each natural day is either more than 24 hours long, or less.

*Note,* That upon each particular day, a Clock that is well adjusted to a mean or 24 hour day, shall then either gain or lose just so much time, as that natural day is either longer or shorter than the mean day:

Therefore, if a Clock, having been first set right to the Sun the first day of any particular Month, shall either gain or lose in that whole Month so much in time as the whole sum of Equations for that Month amounts to, (which you shall find noted down at the bottom of every particular Column) then is it well adjusted to the mean, Equal or 24 hour Day; but if it have not either got or lost so much as the whole sum of Equations for the whole time it has gone in do's amount to, then must its motion be regulated as occasion requires, by screwing up the Bob to make it go faster, in case it has not got enough; or else letting the Bob down lower, to make it go slower, in case it hath not lost so much as the whole sum of Equations do amount to for the time it has gone in,

*For the more particular Explanation and Use of this Table, consult the Book it self, sold by J. Watts at the Half-Moon in St. Paul's Church-yard, 1686.*



OF THE  
UNIVERSITY



OF THE  
**UNEQUALITY**  
 OF  
**NATURAL TIME, &c.**

**T**HE Vibrations of a long  
 and weighty *Pendulum*,  
 although it be justly  
 esteemed to be the most  
 exact and steady of all Natural Mo-  
 tion; yet is it not capable of regula-  
 ting the *Index* of a Clock to such a  
 pitch of Perfection, as continually to  
 point out the same time that shall be  
 given by the Sun on the Lines of an  
 exact and true Dial.

The truth of which is sufficiently

ly made evident by the most exact and critical Experiments : For, let all the moving parts, of a *Pendulum* Clock, be contriv'd with the greatest Skill and Judgment, and then made up by the most cunning and curious Hand, and after all this be adjusted by the utmost Care and Diligence of Man ; yet shall not the Motion of it correspond so continually with the Hours given by the Sun, but that in some considerable quantity of Time you shall be sensible of gain or loss in the Motion of it.

The true Reason of which Variation proceeds not from any Defect that may be attributed to the Motion of the *Pendulum*, (of whose exactness we are by many curious Experiments sufficiently sensible ; ) but rather from an Unequality legible

gible and easie enough to be discover'd in the diurnal Motions of the Sun.

Vulgarly, for the most part, the Sun is indeed accounted to be the Standard and Measure of all equal Time, and Men generally esteem Natural Dayes to be all of one length, as containing the just time of 24 Hours; but upon a more exact and curious Scrutiny, these vulgar Suppositions are found to be false: For, neither is the Sun's Motion found to be exact, being in appearance to us, sometimes swift, and at other times more slow; nor are the Dayes themselves, accounted from Noon to Noon, of equal lengths, some Dayes containing more Time than some, and others less; there being a natural necessity, that the unequal Motions of the

Sun should produce such inequalities in the lengths of those natural Days that are bounded by it.

For a natural Day being composed of that space of Time, in which any one Place or Point of the Earth is moved in its diurnal Motion East-ward, from the Meridian Sun of any one Day, to that of the next; it will follow, that these Dayes can never be equal, unless the Sun in that space of Time be so mov'd in her annual Orb, as to cut out equal Divisions on the *Æquinoctial* upon the Meridian of every Day; which Divisions so intersected, are by the Learned termed, the *Right Ascensions*: For whenever the Right Ascension either of Sun or Star is mentioned, we are to understand by it, those Degrees of the *Æquinoctial* that are intersected

ed by that Meridian, on which either Sun or Star have then their place.

But that the Sun between each Meridian does not move such just and certain Spaces in her own Orb, as thus to intersect equal Divisions on the *Æqui-nox*, upon every Meridian, needs no other evidence than what either Calculation it self affords, or Globes by an ocular Inspection demonstrate to us. By Calculation, if an exact Table of *Right Ascensions* be composed, for the Meridian, or Noon-time of each particular Day, there will be found almost a continual difference in the length of those Intersections that are made by the Sun on the *Æqui-nox*, upon every Meridian; so that there will by this means be found nothing but an almost continual unequalness

qualness in the *Right Ascensions* : Which will be the more apparent, if you make an Estimation of the *Right Ascensions* of about 10 Dayes together, and compare that with those of the same Number. The like will appear plainly, if tryed on the Globe; for if you mark out on the *Ecliptick* any 10, or more Day's Motion of the Sun, according to his true place found out in an exact *Ephimeris*, and passing these 10, or more Days motion under the Meridian, noting what Degrees on the *Æquinoctial* are then traced out, which compared with the Degrees traced out, by making the same number of Day's Motion in some other part of the *Ecliptick*, to pass the Meridian, and the difference of *Right Ascensions* included between those two equal number of Dayes will plainly appear. All



All which Irregularities, or difference in *Right Ascension*, proceed from two principal Causes: 1. From the different Positions: And, 2. From the different Centres of those Orbs in which, and according to which the Sun and Earth do move; from whence arises a natural necessity, that between two such regular and equal Motions, whose Position is thus oblique, those appearing differences should still arise; for though both Sun and Earth, the one in his annual the other in it's diurnal Revolutions, be rationally supposed to be regular and equal in their own Motions; yet in regard of the different Positions of their Spheres, the *Right Ascensions* that are made by them cannot be equal; it being impossible that the Sun, when near *Aries* and *Libra*, where he moves cross

cross the Equinoctial, should then in any particular number of days make so great an alteration in *Right Ascension*, as he must do near the two Tropicks, where both Equinoctial and Ecliptick run paralel one to the other; and accordingly by the best Tables of *Right Ascension*, 'tis found that the *Right Ascensions* of 10 daies motion of the Sun near the Tropick of *Capricorn*, shall arise to above 11 degrees 30 minutes, whereas that of the same number of daies near the Equinoctial Point of *Aries* shall scarcely amount to 9 degrees.

Moreover, from the eccentricity of these Orbs, another irregularity does happen in the *Right Ascensions*, for the Centre of the Earth, upon which it turns round in it's daily Revolutions, being not the

the same with the Centre of the Suns Orb, it follows that the apparent Equinoxes pointed out by an imaginary line drawn through the centre of the Earth, and intersecting the Ecliptick, shall divide that Circle into two unequal parts; from whence it arises, that the Sun must spend more daies in passing through one half of the Ecliptick, than he does in passing through the other; and accordingly by experience he is found to move through that part between *Libra* and *Aries* in 179 daies, but in passing between *Aries* and *Libra* he takes up 186, which is 7 dayes more; so that in that part of the Year between *September* and *March*, he seems to us to be swift in motion, but in the other part between *March* and *September* his apparent course is more slow; which

which seeming swiftness and slowness of the Suns motion, is the cause that the *Right Ascensions* near both the Tropicks are not alike, but differ much, as do also those that are nigh the Equinoxes: for the *Right Ascension* of 10 daies motion near the Winter Tropick, is more by 60 Minutes, than that of the same number of daies near that of the Summer one; so also the *Right Ascension* of 10 daies time near *Libra*, amounts to above 30 Minutes more than those of the same number of daies near *Aries* does.

Having thus plainly demonstrated that natural daies must needs be unequal, and laid down the Causes from whence those unequalities do still arise; I suppose it may now be concluded to be extreemly unreasonable, for those that are so Nice  
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and Curious as some are, to expect an exact correspondence between the times given by the motions of a Clock, and those divisions of it that are made by these unsteady motions of the Sun on the Lines of a Dial; for if from the Reasons before laid down, there be in nature a necessity for those differences of *Right Ascension* before asserted, and that the daies which they bound, must differ also in length, correspondent to what those differences in *Right Ascension* do amount to; how then is it possible that those exact and regular motions of a *Pendulum*, to what pitch soever it be set, should agree with these motions of the Sun, and truly divide those daies that are not so regular as it self is: For,

Suppose a Clock should be adjusted

justed to the hour at a time when natural daies are shortest, as about the middle of *March*, this Clock with the same pitch of motion, shall in *June* or *December* finish it's diurnal Revolutions sooner than the day shall do, by reason the natural daies are now longer than those of *March*, to which the Clock had been formerly adjusted; and by consequence it shall now gain upon every day, just so much time as these daies in *December* are longer than those of *March*. So on the contrary, if a Clock be adjusted to go true with the Sun in the Month of *December*, at which time the natural day is alwayes longest, this Clock when natural daies are shorter, as in *March* or *September*, shall not finish it's daily Revolutions so soon as the day it self shall be accomplished,

plished, and by consequence go each day so much too slow, as those daies of *March* or *September* are more short than them to which the Clock before had been exactly adjusted.

Since therefore there is no tolerable exactness in thus adjusting Clocks to the Sun it self, becaule being thus adjusted at times when daies are either shortest or longest; their gaining or losing will be the more extream in the contrary parts of the year: for Example; Clocks adjusted to the Sun in *March* shall upon most daies in *December* gain almost 50 Seconds, which in the Months time shall amount to near half an hour; and on the contrary, if adjusted to go true with the Sun in *December*, it shall in *March* lose the same time, and so for any  
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other, according as daies do differ in length.

That Clocks therefore may be reduced to a more exact pitch of motion, that their gain or loss may never be so extream, it will be necessary to adjust them, so as that their motion may be agreeable to that of a middle day, or such a one as is a mean between natural daies that are most long, and those others that are most short; to which pitch if a Clock be once adjusted, it's gain or loss shall then be the less sensible (for gain and lose it will still) amounting in *December* but to about 15 Minutes in the whole Month, and in *March* to but about 9, which is vastly more exact than when it shall happen to be adjusted to the longest or shortest of Natural daies, or to any other  
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that is not equal to a mean or middle day, of which there are but few, which in the Table are express'd by the Character  $\odot$  Sol.

But to this exact pitch of motion, that may thus correspond to a mean day (the greatest exactness that a Pendulum is capable of being brought to) there is no way certainly to adjust a Clock without the help and assistance of a Table of Equations, that give the daily differences between a mean day and those which are either longer or shorter than the mean day is; which Equations having formerly been computed by the Worthy and Ingenious Mr. *Christian Hugen* de *Zulechim*, (who is reported to be the first that ever apply'd the Pendulum to regulate the motion of a Clock) and not long since Printed in num-

ber 49. *Philos. Trans.* I have made bold, in regard of its exactness, to transcribe in it's more natural form of an Equation, by only expressing the Equations themselves, without adding them together, and subtracting, as Mr. *Hugens* has done for a particular use, to shew the nature of a Pendulums going, when set right the first of *February*, and let go the whole year round, without setting afterwards.

Now for their sakes that desire to know the manner of Composing such a Table themselves, that thereby they may the better understand the nature of it; they may Note, that the Equations are to be found out, and a Table composed in the manner following: First find out a mean *Right Ascension*, by dividing the 360 degrees of the Equinox

nox into 365 parts, and a quarter, equal to the daies of a year, and the product shall be the mean *Right Ascension* desired, which will be found to be about three Minutes 56 Seconds (according to Sir *Jonas Moors* account of it in his *Mathematical Compendium*) then by the help of an exact *Ephemerides* (here lyes the difficulty) let the natural *Right Ascensions* of the Sun be computed by Calculation, for the Meridian Position of the Sun for every day, to Minutes and Seconds; which having done, compare the daily differences of these Natural *Right Ascensions* with the mean one, by still subtracting the lesser from the greater, and what remains shall be the Equations desired; still noting down either the excess or defect, that is,

whether the natural be more than the mean or less: as for example; Suppose the *Right Ascension* between the Meridians of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup> of *January* be found to amount to 4 Minutes, 20 Seconds, this compared with the mean *Right Ascensions*, 3 Minutes, 56 Seconds, and by subtracting the lesser from the greater, the remainder will be found to be 24 Seconds, and so much the Natural *Right Ascension* does then exceed the mean one; this 24 Seconds is the Equation for that day, it being from noon to noon 24 Seconds longer than a mean day is; and shews you, that a Clock when well adjusted to a mean day, shall then gain 24 Seconds, because it finishes it's Diurnal Revolutions sooner by 24 Seconds than the day it self does:

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on the contrary, when the *Right Ascensions* of Natural daies are less than the mean ones, as they are about the middle of *March*, by almost 20 Seconds, this 20 Seconds being the Equations belonging to such a day, shall shew you, that upon such a like day a well adjusted Clock shall then lose 20 Seconds; for the mean day to which it is adjusted being longer than the natural one by 20 Seconds, the Natural Day shall be finished sooner by 20 Seconds than the Clock at that time shall accomplish it's diurnal or daily Revolutions, and by consequence it shall then lose 20 Seconds. The Equations thus found for every particular day, and a Table composed of them, shall resemble that which is here insert-

ed, whose Use we now come to shew more particular in some Cases.

For Explanation, take notice, that the first Column contains the daies common to every Month, the other 12 Columns that belong to the several Months themselves, contain those Seconds of time that all natural daies are either longer or shorter than the mean day. Note, that in four parts of the Table are placed this Character  $\odot$ , which denotes the times wherein natural daies having before been longer than the mean day, do then begin to be shorter; or having before been shorter, do then begin to grow more long: Note also, that those daies upon which this Character  $\odot$  is affixed, have no Equation, they being equal in their length to the  
mean



mean day; as for the words inserted among the Columns, they are at sight to inform you, that the Equations in those parts of the Table are either more or else less than the mean day, as the words themselves do fully express; they also note, that where the Equations are more, there Clocks shall gain each day so much as the Equation belonging to it does then express; but if the Equations are less, they then shall lose; and how much this gain or loss for every particular Months time shall amount to, is by continual addition of the Equations belonging to each day summed up, and the quantity of time it amounts to, set down apart at the bottom of every Column.

Note also, that since Clocks do either gain or lose, during the whole

whole number of daies included between those daies on whom this Character  $\odot$  is affixed, the whole quantity of time either got or lost does amount to the summs that follow, viz. Between the 1<sup>st</sup> of *February* and the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May*, the time that a well adjusted Clock shall lose, amounts by continual adding the Equations together, to about 19 Minutes, 29 Seconds; between this 4<sup>th</sup> of *May* and the 15<sup>th</sup> of *July* it shall gain about 9 Minutes 43 Seconds; from the 15<sup>th</sup> of *July* to the 23<sup>d</sup> of *October*, it shall lose 22 Minutes 9 Seconds; from the 23<sup>d</sup> of *October* to the last of *January*, it shall gain 31 Minutes 55 Seconds: All this is to be understood of a well adjusted Clock, set right to the Sun at the beginning of each time of either gaining or losing.

By

By this Table, if you would adjust a Clock to a mean time, which is the greatest exactness to which it's possible to be brought, do thus : First set it true to the Sun, and note the day, then let it's motion be continued without setting a new, for about 30 or more daies : Observe then the time that it has got or lost by the Sun, then summ up the whole number of Seconds included in the Table, between those two daies of first setting and last Observation ( allowing 60 Seconds to a Minute ) and if the gain or loss of your Clock be equal to the summ of time that it should have gained or lost by the Table, then is it well adjusted ; but if it have not, then must its motion be reduced to a more near agreement, by shortning the Pendulum in case the Clock have

have gone too slow, or letting the Bob down longer in case it have gone too fast: Then set it anew, and try it for about 30 daies more, and then comparing its loss or gain with the sum of those Equations contained in the Table, as before you did, let the Bob be again rectified as the nature of it's motion requires; and continue to do thus, till you find its gain or loss exactly to correspond with the sum of time given by the Equations contained in the Table, for the time that the Clock has gone.

When it is thus well adjusted to a mean time, it will be so exact, as that, being set right at any time of the Year, and so let go the whole Year about, it shall come right with the same Dial by which it was set the same day Twelve-month; but  
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in all other parts of the Year it shall still differ from the same Dial. For Example: If set right the first of *February*, and so continued in Motion the whole Year about, it shall continually be too slow the whole Year, either more or less, till the same day on which it was set: The reason of this is plain enough; for from the first of *February* to the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May*, it shall continually lose to the quantity of 19 Minutes, 29 Seconds; then from the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May* to the 15<sup>th</sup> of *July*, it shall gain; but this gaining amounting to but about nine Minutes, 43 Seconds, it shall still be too slow by 9 Minutes, 46 Seconds; because its gaining now shall not be so much as it lost before, by 9 Minutes, 43 Seconds: Then again, from the 16<sup>th</sup> of *July* it shall lose afresh till the 21<sup>st</sup> of *October*; which second loss amounting

mounting to about 22 Minutes, 9 Seconds, this added to the time that it was too slow on the last account, shall amount to 31 Minutes, 55 Seconds, and so much it shall be too slow on the 21<sup>st</sup> of *October*; from whence it shall gain afresh till the last of *January*, to the quantity of 31 Minutes, 55 Seconds; which being equal to what it was before too slow, shall cause it to come right to the same Dial with which it was set twelve Months before, altho' it went too slow the whole Year beside.

Again, let a Clock be set right the 23<sup>d</sup> of *October*, it shall from thence gain time till the last of *January*; and this gain shall amount to 31 Minutes, 55 Seconds; then from the first of *February* to the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May*, it shall lose 19 Minutes,  
29 Se-

29 Seconds, which being less than the 31 Minutes, 55 Seconds, which before it had got, by about 12 Minutes, 26 Seconds, it shall still be too fast by 12 Minutes 26 Seconds: Then from the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May*, to the 15<sup>th</sup> of *July*, it shall gain anew to the quantity of about 9 Minutes 43 Seconds, which added to the time it was too fast before, shall amount to 22 Minutes, 9 Seconds, and so much it shall be too fast on the 15<sup>th</sup> of *July*; from which time till the 23<sup>d</sup> of *October*, it shall lose this 22 Minutes, 9 Seconds, and by Consequence come right to the same Dial with which it was set twelve Months before.

Thus shall one and the same Clock, with the same pitch of Motion, go alwayes too slow if  
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set at one time of the Year, and always too fast if set at another time, if it be let go the whole Year about.

Moreover, if set at some other times, and then continued in its Motion for a Year, without setting anew, it shall both gain and lose; be sometimes too fast, and sometimes too slow: For if a well adjusted *Pendulum* be set right to the Sun the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of July it shall be 9 Minutes, 43 Seconds too fast: From this 15<sup>th</sup> of July to the 23<sup>d</sup> of October, having lost 22 Minutes, 9 Seconds; from which subtracting the 9 Minutes, 43 Seconds that it was before too fast, there remains 12 Minutes, 26 Seconds; and so much it shall be too slow on the 23<sup>d</sup> of October; from which day it shall begin to gain,



gain, and continue so to do till the first of *January*, by which time the Clock having got 31 Minutes; 55 Seconds, which amounting to about 19 Minutes, 29 Seconds above what it was too slow on the 23<sup>d</sup> of *October*, it shall by Consequence be now 19 Minutes; 29 Seconds too fast; from whence to the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May*, it shall lose what now it is too fast, and so come right to the same Dial with which it was before set:

Again, set a Clock to the Sun the 15<sup>th</sup> of *July*; and if it be well adjusted, it shall by the 23<sup>d</sup> of *October* be 22 Minutes, 9 Seconds too slow; from whence to the last of *January*, it being to gain 31 Minutes, 55 Seconds, it shall be then 9 Minutes, 46 Seconds too fast; from which time to the 4<sup>th</sup> of *May*,

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it losing 19 Minutes, 29 Seconds, it shall then be 9 Minutes 29 Seconds too slow; which time by the 15<sup>th</sup> of July shall again be got, and so the Clock shall come right to the same Dial.

Thus, by this Table, are these great Varieties discoverable in the Motion of the best adjusted *Pendulum*, according to the different times of the Year that it is set in; that the same *Pendulum* set right upon the first of February, shall go always too slow till the same day twelve-month; but if set right the 23<sup>d</sup> of October, it shall the whole Year round be still too fast, till the same day on which it was set: The same Clock being also set to the Hour on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, or the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, shall on the following Year be

be sometimes too fast, and at other times too slow. These are all strange and unaccountable things to such as understand not the Nature of the Unequality of Time, from whence all these Varieties do still arise, and are scarcely to be demonstrated to the Understanding by any other way, than by this or some other Table of the *Æquation of Time*.

Since therefore there is a necessity for setting Clocks a-new to the Sun, at some times, that they may be kept as near as possible to the apparent time given by a Dial; I advise that this setting may be, if possible, the first day of every Month; so may you the better discern by the Time set down at the bottom of every Column, whether your Clock have gone right to the

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mean

mean time, and be as exact in his Motion as 'tis possible to bring him to: For if it be exactly adjusted, it will then either gain or lose near that time that is set down at the bottom of every Month, those Sums being nothing else but the *Æquations* of the whole Month added together into one Summ, as before I directed, when I gave you the Method of adjusting a *Pendulum* to the true or mean time: But in case you cannot set it right the first day, then must you be at a little trouble to add together the *Æquations* your self, at such time as you come to set it a-new; but when the Clock is well adjusted, there needs little of this trouble, being assured that it's brought to the nearest pitch of Motion it's capable of; and that when it is at any time found to differ from

from the Sun, it must be lookt upon as the natural Consequence of the Unequality of Time, and not any Deficiency in the Motion of the Clock.

I speak this of those long and curious *Pendulums* that vibrate within the Compass of 2 or 3 Inches; for the less Compass a *Pendulum* takes, the more steady is it's Motion, not being so subject to rise and fall, as others are, that vibrate in a larger Compass. As for those shorter *Pendulums* of a Foot long, or under, although they may go very steady for the most part, if Frost or foulness hinder not, yet are they not at all intended in this Discourse, their Motion being apt to an Alteration in some Cases; for a short *Pendulum* that goes well when clean,

shall go faster than the mean time when foul, because the *Pendulum* is by the foulness hindred from taking its wonted Compass : The same effect does Frost produce ; for by congealing the Oyl in the Pevets, its freedom of Motion is interrupted, so that the *Pendulum* not fetching it's wonted Compass, shall go too fast ; but those long and curious *Pendulums* of 40 Inches, that fetch not above three Inches compass, they are so exact, that being once adjusted they shall alwayes keep the same time, if their motion continue ; for if the *Pendulum* should fetch a smaller compass, their Motion would cease, and themselves stand still.

When such a *Pendulum* as this is well adjusted, you may trust to  
it,

it, as to it's correspondence in Motion with the mean time, and only give your self the trouble sometimes to set it a little forward or backward, according to what the unequality of Time has made it to differ from the same Dial with which you did use to set it; which times of setting may be, as I said before, once in a Month; yet if the Table be well noted, you shall find, there be some times in the year in which a good Clock may go a longer time without any material difference from the time given by a Dial: For Example,

Suppose you set a Clock right to the Sun the first of *January*, this Clock if let go till the first of *March*, shall then be but two Minutes four Seconds too fast; for though it gain

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in *January* six Minutes, no great matter, yet losing in the next Month about four Minutes, it shall at the end of that Month be but two Minutes to fast; nay, if let go another Month, as to the last of *March* is, it shall then differ but about seven Minutes, which is no great matter. Moreover, if you set a Clock the first of *May*, it shall, if let go till *June*, lose but two Minutes thirty five Seconds in the whole, though it shall at the beginning of *May* be about five Minutes to slow, which is no great matter; so also if it be set right the first of *June*, it may well go without setting till the first of *September*; for though it gain five Minutes in *June*, yet losing eight Minutes in *August*, it shall then be but about three Minutes too slow in this three Months



Months time; but at some other times, as from *February* to *May*, if a Clock were let go 'twill be extremely out, losing above eighteen Minutes; so also in *November*, *December* and *January*, in which time it will gain above thirty Minutes.

By the Table you may also readily find out, what difference there is between the lengths of any two daies in this manner: First, If the daies are both shorter, or both longer than the mean day, then subtract the Equation in the Table belonging to one day from the Equation of the other, and the remainder shall shew their difference in length. But if the daies be one longer than the mean, and the other shorter, then add the two Equa-

Equations together, and the sum shall be the time that they differ in length : Thus the tenth of *January* will be found to be thirteen Seconds longer than the tenth of *May*; also the fifteenth of *September* will be found to be fifty one Seconds shorter than the fifteenth of *December*.

*Note*, That if men be very nice in keeping a Clock true to the Sun, they should then make use, if possible, of but one time on the Dial that they set it with, and that pretty near noon; for few Dials being drawn exactly true, great mistakes may arise, when a Clock is set to one hour and then compared with another; and by reason of refractions great errors may also

so arise; for the Sun by Refractions being made to appear higher than really she is, there can be no certain account taken of the time till near Noon, where Refractions cease: And when all this care is taken, in regard it is so very hard to distinguish Minutes by the shadow of a Dial, you will be much more exact if you do thus: Let two plain and flat plates or boards, about ten Inches square, be joyned so close together that a Six-pence may but just go between; let them be fixed so, that this Cranny between them may respect the true *South*; this will give you the time to less than half a Minute, by observing the first moment that the Suns beam is darted through it, and cast upon some dark body that is plac'd on the North-

North-part to receive the light; so that having thus the exact time, when the Sun comes to every Meridian, it will be found a much better way to adjust Clocks by such a device as this, than by the truest Dial.

One use more, and that a Principal one, I shall add, that is this: When a Clock is once well adjusted to the mean or equal day, you may then by this Table keep it right to the time given by the Sun, although you never set it right to a Dial, nor see the Sun above once a Year; to perform this do thus: set your Clock right to the Sun the first day of any one Month, and then the Table still giving you the time it should lose or

or gain in that whole Months  
time, 'tis then but setting it for-  
ward or backward the first day  
of the next Month what it either  
hath got or lost in the Month im-  
mediately preceding, and it will  
then be right with the Sun as if it  
had been set by a Dial, and so  
from Month to Month you may  
(by still setting it either forward  
or backward according to what the  
Table tells you it will gain or  
lose) keep it true to the time giv-  
en by the Sun, though it should  
never shine so as to give you an  
opportunity to set it by a Dial  
above once in the whole Year; but  
be sure your Clock be first well  
adjusted, or else there may be some  
errour: Note, that for this pur-  
pose it will be very convenient to  
Paste

Paste the Table it self on a board, and then putting it into a handsome Frame, let it be hung up near the Clock, that you may have ready recourse to it on all occasions, especially for this in particular; for without the assistance of such a Table as this, I know no way in the World to keep a Clock right to the apparent time, in case Clouds should intercept the Beams of the Sun for any long time together.

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*F I N I S.*

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